HEBA The Heart of England Baptist Association HEARTBEAT

Hello,

We hope you had a good summer with the opportunity to take some time out to be refreshed.

As we start a new season, already there is so much for us to be praying about with all that is happening nationally in parliament and further afield with the devastation being caused by the Amazon fires and Hurricane Dorian.

With these in mind, we hope you will find plenty in this issue to encourage you as we prepare for the weeks ahead. (We have also included a few items that would normally go in the Noticeboard, by special request of those organisations.)

You can also find the Report of the Directors and Financial Statements here.

Every blessing,
Karen

RM's MESSAGE

SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING!

"See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."
(Isaiah 43:19)

I know that the new year begins on 1st January, but over the years I've been involved in churches, September has felt as much of a fresh beginning as January, maybe more so. Perhaps that's because so much of what we do, and the programmes we run, are shaped by the academic year more than the calendar year?

Anyway, I have had these words of the Prophet on my heart over the Summer, through which God was encouraging His people to "Forget the former things; [and] not dwell on the past." (v.18) What were these former things? According to the preceding two verses, Isaiah is referring back to the exodus, when Yahweh "made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters" and then "drew out [Egypt's] chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick."

Well, that all sounds pretty good to me, and certainly worthy of remembrance and celebration! Had they now to forget this momentous act of salvation? Not exactly. The Prophet is emphasising how amazing this "new thing" will be, that by comparison, the exodus will fade into insignificance. So, what is this "new thing"? In the immediate context it is, of course, the defeat of Babylon and the restoration of His people Israel from exile. But Isaiah's distant gaze is always upon the coming Messiah, and the ultimate salvation for all people. Amazing indeed!

As the holiday period draws to a close, and we start into the new term, I wonder if we are excited by what God is going to do next? Are we launching into our programmes with eager anticipation, or with a sense of déjà vu? Are we optimistic that God is about to do a "new thing", or desperately trying to keep the existing things going? I don't doubt that our "former things" have been great, and really fruitful for the Kingdom. But maybe God wants to do something new?

My hope and prayer is that each of us would experience "streams in the wasteland", that will give rise to new shoots and fresh pastures. And that we will see our Saviour, whose "mercies … are new every morning" (Lam 3:22-23), at work in a fresh move of His Holy Spirit, revitalising our churches and transforming our communities. Amazing indeed!

With love in Christ,
Neil Le Tissier

NEWS

CHURCH CLOSURE

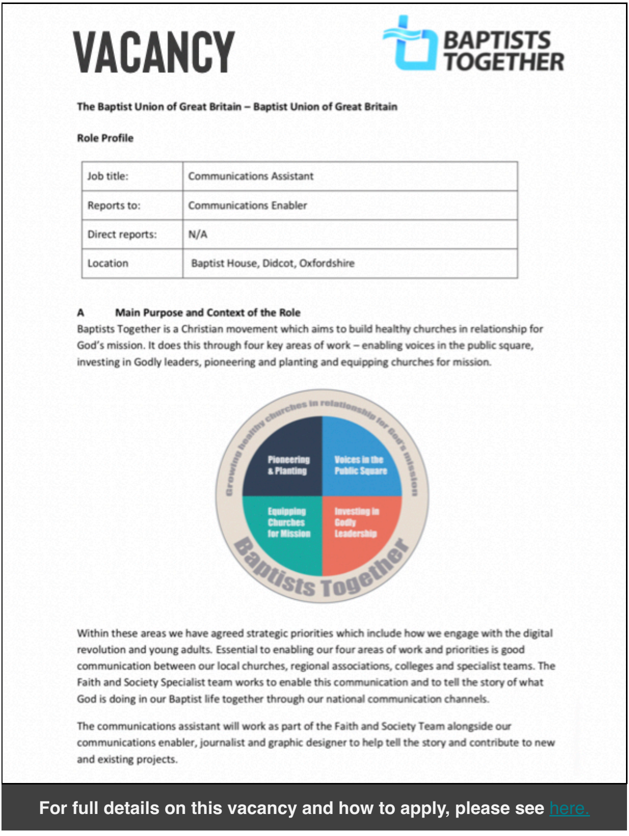
We are sad to inform you of
the closure of two of our churches:

Rainbow Hill Baptist Church (Worcester)
at the end of July

Church of the Redeemer
will close at the end of September 2019.

Please remember the members in your prayers
as they seek new spiritual homes.

NOTICES



VACANCY

The Baptist Union of Great Britain – Baptist Union of Great Britain

Role Profile

Job title:	Communications Assistant
Reports to:	Communications Enabler
Direct reports:	N/A
Location	Baptist House, Didcot, Oxfordshire

A Main Purpose and Context of the Role

Baptists Together is a Christian movement which aims to build healthy churches in relationship for God's mission. It does this through four key areas of work – enabling voices in the public square, investing in Godly leaders, pioneering and planting and equipping churches for mission.

Growing healthy churches in relationship for God's mission
Pioneering & Planting
Voices in the Public Square
Equipping Churches for Mission
Investing in Godly Leadership
Baptists Together

Within these areas we have agreed strategic priorities which include how we engage with the digital revolution and young adults. Essential to enabling our four areas of work and priorities is good communication between our local churches, regional associations, colleges and specialist teams. The Faith and Society Specialist team works to enable this communication and to tell the story of what God is doing in our Baptist life together through our national communication channels.

The communications assistant will work as part of the Faith and Society Team alongside our communications enabler, journalist and graphic designer to help tell the story and contribute to new and existing projects.

For full details on this vacancy and how to apply, please see here.

New Hope
BAPTIST CHURCH

We're looking for a

Youth Leader/Children's Worker

The purpose of the post

Based in Coseley in The Black Country, New Hope BC is seeking to employ, for five hours weekly with some flexibility, someone to work, help and begin development of an exciting and engaging programme for our young people in church. The aim is to provide a fixed time during one evening per week, to meet with our small group of young people to provide an atmosphere of fun and learning where the Gospel is central to the meetings. We would anticipate that initially the meeting would be about two hours with a further three hours funded for preparation.
The applicant would need to be able, perhaps with other suitable volunteers to provide a safe and comprehensive provision for our young people entrusted to them, whilst always maintaining Christian core values.

Requirements of the post

Though being trained in youth work and teaching is desirable it is not absolutely necessary, though relevant experience of working in a capacity with young people is a requirement.
The applicant should be a committed Christian with an Evangelical approach to their ministry with young people.
They must be able to maintain very strict confidentiality, and be willing to study and adhere to the church safeguarding policy; they must further have a willingness to attend further training where necessary and go through the necessary DBS checking process.
They should be someone who is adequately able to share the Gospel with young people and explore the significance of Jesus Christ in their own lives.
They will be someone who is able to develop healthy relationships with the young people, their families, and with the Church leaders and members.

Applying for the Post.

In the first instance, an email registering interest should be sent to the minster of NHBC, Reverend Paul Westwood info@newhopebaptistchurch.co.uk
Suitable applicants will be invited to meet with church leaders to discuss the possibilities of their employment.

Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be invited to begin at a mutually acceptable time and their work based on a five hour timescale of preparation and activity. The sum paid to the successful will be in excess of the higher end of the current adult minimum wage.

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bcuim
connecting church and the economy
Black Country Urban Industrial Mission

You Are Warmly Invited To Our

CHURCH SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE MINISTRY OF BCUIM

This will take place on the evening of
Thursday November 7th, at 7.00pm
in St Peter's, Wolverhampton.

The speaker will be
Revd. Phil Jump.
Regional Minister of the North Western Baptist Association
& Chair of the Industrial Christian Fellowship.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

UPCOMING DATES

Tamworth BC	Sat Oct 19	L2	10.00 – 13.00
Pershore BC	Sat Oct 19	L3	10.00 – 15.30
Catshill BC	Wed Oct 23	L2	19.00 – 22.00
Bromsgrove	Sat Nov 16	L3	10.00 – 15.30

Keep an eye on our website. You can find updated information here.

EMERGENCY FIRST AID AT WORK COURSE

Saturday 21st September | 9:30am to 3:30pm

Sts Medics will be running this course, which is suitable for church volunteers/staff and will be run at Warley Baptist Church (in the main worship area).

Subjects covered will include CPR, unconsciousness, choking, bleeding, burns, shock and some childhood emergencies.

Cost: £45 per person.

Tea/coffee provided. Bring your own lunch. All candidates will recieve a book and certificate for this qualification which lasts 3 years.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like to book some places.

You can book through Andy Tite on 07912227985 or by email.
You can also get further information on Sts here.

OPEN HANDS SIGNING CHURCH

PART OF RISING BROOK

Please do remember to take a look at our Deaf Church page.

As we continue to encourage diversity in our churches, you will also find guidance if you would like to invite a BSL preacher to your church.

You can find more information here.

SPREAD THE WORD!

Please share this information so that others can receive our HEBA Newsletters!

They just need to email the address below...

subscribe@baptist-heartofengland.org

EVENTS

RURAL MINISTRIES™
missional energy for churches

REGIONAL DAY CONFERENCE

September 14th

St Andrews Community Church
Craven Arms, Shropshire

Perhaps now more than ever before, our country needs the church at its best. To paraphrase another, the local church is the hope of our community when it is working right. Unfortunately, sometimes churches are not serving as effectively as they could. A church split, a failed leader, changing economics, stretched resources or an ageing congregation; there are many reasons for rural churches to be struggling and in decline.

However, we at Rural Ministries do not believe that God has finished with His church in the countryside; indeed we see many encouraging signs of growth. If you think that your church has great potential to impact your community, but lacks the resources, then you need to attend our Regional Conferences 'Re:Generate', in 2019.

Through an interactive day of four sessions which comprise discussion, teaching, resources and practical advice, we aim to help you reinvigorate your church, helping it become stronger and healthier, and even more missionally intentional. Your church has incredible potential to reach your community and beyond with the gospel of Jesus Christ; come and be encouraged by what God has in mind for you.

The four sessions are:

- We're not in Kansas anymore - understanding what has changed, and what hasn't.
- From in-reach to our-reach.
- From volunteers to servants.
- From a church mindset to a kingdom mentality.

Our Regional Conferences often sell out several weeks in advance so early booking is recommended.

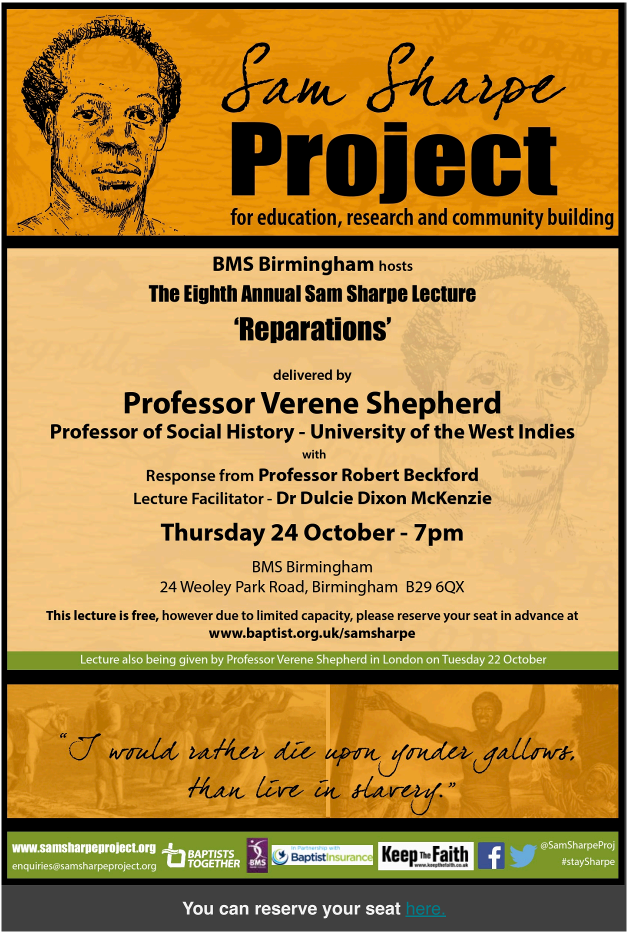
Who should attend?

These events are for clergy, leaders, members of churches and anyone with a heart for mission in their communities.

Regional conference rates and bookings

The cost for attending one of our 2019 Day Conferences is just £20 which includes refreshments and a light lunch

For more information or to book onto the conference visit here.



Sam Sharpe
Project
for education, research and community building

BMS Birmingham hosts
The Eighth Annual Sam Sharpe Lecture
'Reparations'

delivered by
Professor Verene Shepherd
Professor of Social History - University of the West Indies
with
Response from **Professor Robert Beckford**
Lecture Facilitator - **Dr Dulcie Dixon McKenzie**

Thursday 24 October - 7pm

BMS Birmingham
24 Weoley Park Road, Birmingham B29 6QX

This lecture is free, however due to limited capacity, please reserve your seat in advance at
www.baptist.org.uk/samsharpe

Lecture also being given by Professor Verene Shepherd in London on Tuesday 22 October

"I would rather die upon yonder gallows, than live in slavery."

www.samsharpeproject.org
enquiries@samsharpeproject.org
@SamSharpeProj
#staySharpe

You can reserve your seat here.

A one-day conference entitled
"SECRET BELIEVERS AND THE CHURCH"
Exploring together further integration into the Family

To be held in Birmingham
Saturday 16 November
from 9:30am - 5:30pm

These annual conferences are focused on "Building Church amongst Muslims in Britain".

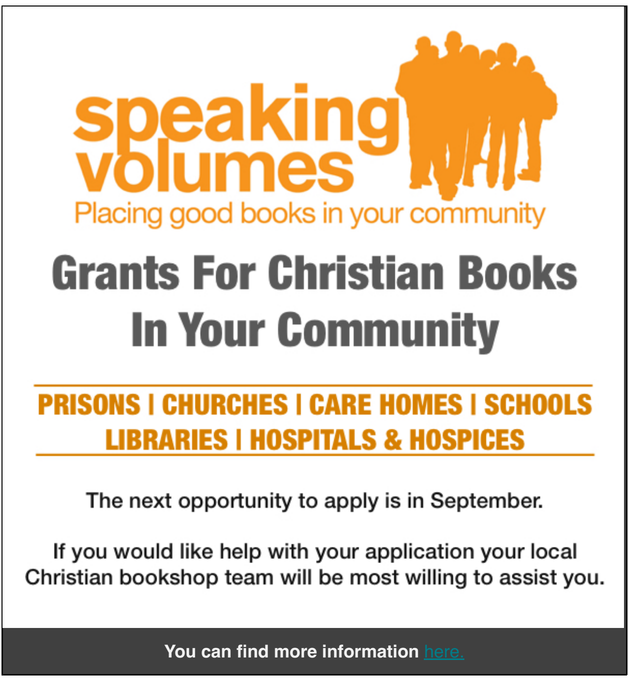
Tom Walsh will be this year's plenary speaker and there will be a variety of seminars.

There will be a curry lunch.

For more information contact Amjad Mahand at amjadmahand@aol.com

Contact Amjad Mahand here.

FUNDING



speaking volumes
Placing good books in your community

Grants For Christian Books In Your Community

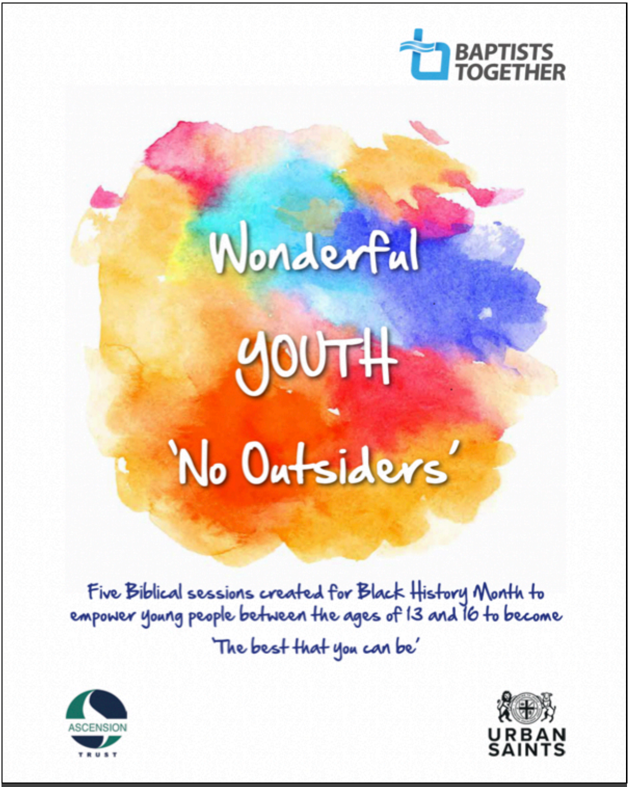
PRISONS | CHURCHES | CARE HOMES | SCHOOLS LIBRARIES | HOSPITALS & HOSPICES

The next opportunity to apply is in September.

If you would like help with your application your local Christian bookshop team will be most willing to assist you.

You can find more information here.

RESOURCES



BAPTISTS TOGETHER

Wonderful YOUTH 'No Outsiders'

Five Biblical sessions created for Black History Month to empower young people between the ages of 13 and 16 to become 'The best that you can be'

ASCENSION TRUST

URBAN SAINTS

You can download the entire booklet here.

Do You Have News Or An Event To Share?

We are always happy to share good news stories of what is happening in our churches as well as any upcoming events.

Email us your video or article with accompanying pictures or a flyer for an event

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